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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Group:</i> | 3636 | } | |
| <i>Confirmation No.:</i> | 9518 | } | |
| <i>Application No.:</i> | 10/688,174 | } | <u>DATED October 09, 2006</u> |
| <i>Invention:</i> | RETRACTABLE COUPLING APPARATUS | } | |
| <i>Applicant:</i> | Boyle, Donald C. | } | |
| <i>Filed:</i> | 16 October 2003 | } | |
| <i>Attorney</i> | | } | |
| <i>Docket:</i> | 2835-73549 | } | |
| <i>Examiner:</i> | Barfield, Anthony Derrell | } | |

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA: 22313-1450

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed August 09, 2006.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.